



ISSUE 5

JULY 2003

US \$2.95/CAN \$4.50

One of the rare series that truly deserves an 'epic-in-the-making' banner! Wizard

BRIAN PULIDO'S

# Lady Death



CrossGen.



00511

crossgen

A MEDIEVAL TALE

Brian Pulido

Fabrizio Fiorentino

Randy Emberlin

Peter Pantazis



Lady  
Death



Tvarus



Archbishop  
von Krakhauer



Wolf

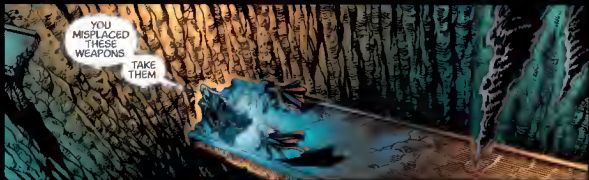
## THUS FAR IN LADY DEATH

Amidst a harrowing battle between warrior knights and the otherworldly Eldritch, a child is conceived. Blood of both clans, she belongs to neither. Years later, the child, Hope, is reborn as Lady Death.

Cair and The Brotherhood of the Sword best Lady Death and Wolf in battle. The captives are then brought before the corrupt Archbishop Helmut von Krakhauer, who sentences them to death.

Meanwhile, Obsidia confronts Tvarus about the truth of his midnight disappearances. Then she reveals the truth to Tvarus' jealous brother, Thorm Gara: Tvarus has a half-human, half-Eldritch daughter.

Lady Death and Wolf escape, but find themselves trapped at the edge of an enormous chasm and certain death. Then Tvarus appears, bearing Hope's weapons...





PAY NO  
ATTENTION TO  
THE HUMANS.

THEY  
CANNOT SEE  
ME OR YOU. THEY  
CANNOT HEAR US. FOR  
ALL INTENTS AND  
PURPOSES, WE  
ARE GONE!

HE'S  
TRAPPED!

SLAY  
HIM!

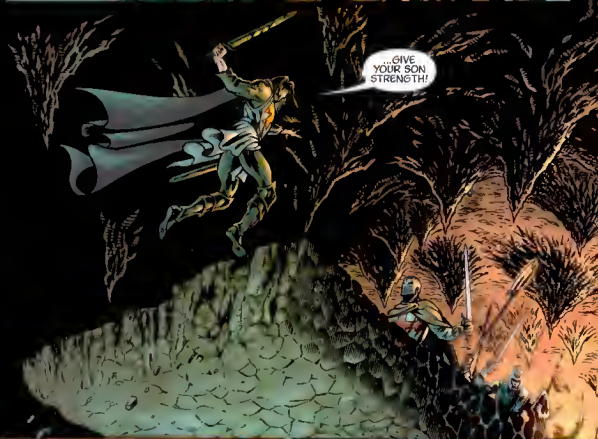
THEY  
ONLY SEE  
IT.



WOLFRAM!  
WHERE IS THE  
WITCH?









YOU LEAVE  
ME WITH NO  
CHOICE, LITTLE  
BROTHER.

CAI,  
THIS IS  
WRONG.

IN YOUR  
HEART,  
YOU KNOW  
THIS.

I KNOW  
NO SUCH  
THING.

WHAT I  
DO KNOW IS THAT  
MY FLESH AND BLOOD  
IS A **TRAITOR** TO THE  
CHURCH HE SWORE  
TO PROTECT.

YOU ARE IN  
LEAGUE WITH THE  
ALABASTER-SKINNED  
DEVILS WHO WILL ONLY  
BE SATISFIED WITH OUR  
EXECUTION.

GIVE PRAISE  
TO GOD THAT OUR  
FATHER IS NOT HERE  
TO WITNESS  
THIS.

BY ORDER  
OF THE ARCHBISHOP  
HELMUT VON KRAKHAUER,  
I CONDEMN YOU,  
WOLFRAM VON BACH,  
TO **DEATH**.









CLOSE  
IN!

ON MY  
COMMAND!



**ATTACK!**





YOU MAY  
THANK YOUR  
GREAT-GRANDFATHER  
ABERANOUS FOR  
THE CLOAKING  
SPELL.

DAMN YOU  
TVARUS!

YOU'VE  
SPARED MY  
LIFE YET  
AGAIN

ONLY  
BECAUSE  
MY DAUGHTER  
WILLED IT

I WARNED  
YOU TO KEEP  
YOUR PET QUIET  
DAUGHTER



I AM  
NO ONE'S  
PET!

OH,  
HUSH.



I WOULD HAVE  
WORDS WITH MY  
DAUGHTER.

SPAK

WHY DID  
YOU HURT  
HIM?



WHY DOES THE SUN RISE HERE?  
WHY IS IT TWILIGHT ALWAYS IN  
AGLAROND? SOME QUESTIONS  
CANNOT BE ANSWERED

HUMANS  
AREN'T LIKE  
US. THEY'RE  
PESTS

HEAL HIS  
HAND.



WHY?

BECAUSE  
HE IS MY  
FRIEND

DO IT

THIS IS  
RIDICULOUS

DO  
IT...FOR  
ME.



VERY WELL.

I WANT TO OFFER YOU SANCTUARY DAUGHTER

MY NAME IS HOPE



YOU WANT TO TAKE ME BACK TO YOUR REALM?

TO AGLAROND? NO THAT WOULDN'T BE PRUDENT

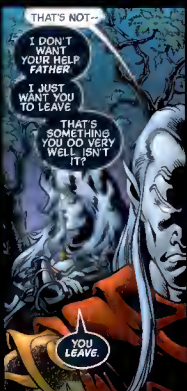
WHY NOT? IS IT BECAUSE I'M HALF-HUMAN?

I JUST WANT TO TAKE YOU AWAY FROM THESE PESTS YOU ARE SO MUCH ABOUT



THEN WHY NOT TAKE ME TO AGLAROND?

I SEE THROUGH YOU YOU CAN'T TAKE ME BACK BECAUSE I'M HALF-HUMAN I'D DISGRACE YOU



THAT'S NOT--

I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP FATHER

I JUST WANT YOU TO LEAVE

THAT'S SOMETHING YOU DO VERY WELL, ISN'T IT?

YOU LEAVE.



AS YOU WISH--

--HOPE.



AS YOU WISH



GONE?

THEY'VE  
MADE A MOCKERY  
OF THIS CHURCH!  
HEAVEN FORBID IF  
WORD OF THIS FIASCO  
GETS BACK TO THE  
VATICAN!

GET  
THEM, CAI!  
BRING THEM  
BACK HERE FOR  
PUNISHMENT OR  
I'LL HAVE YOUR  
HEAD ON A  
PLATTER!

IT IS  
MY HONOR  
LORD

BUT  
CAI - YOUR  
EYE NEEDS  
TENDING

LEAVE  
IT - I STILL  
HAVE THE  
OTHER



I'LL METE OUT JUSTICE IN THE NAME  
OF THE CHURCH LORD

I ONLY ASK THAT I  
MAY HAVE THE SCARLET  
RIDERS TO AID ME IN  
MY MISSION.



THE  
SCARLET  
RIDERS?

HEH



THEY'RE  
YOURS





TO WHAT  
DO I OWE  
THE HONOR  
OF A VISIT,  
THORM?

YOU'VE  
BROKEN SACRED  
ELDRITCH LAW,  
BROTHER.



YOU'VE  
FATHERED A  
HYBRID, PART  
HUMAN, PART  
ELDRITCH.



YOU TEST  
MY PATIENCE  
WITH EMPTY  
ACCUSATIONS,  
BROTHER.

WHERE IS  
YOUR PROOF  
OF THIS  
ACT?

OBSIDIA?



MY OWN WIFE  
TESTIFIES AGAINST  
ME?

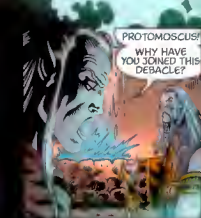
I WOULD NEVER HAVE  
CROSSED YOU BUT...  
YOU BROKE MY HEART  
TVARUS

YOU HAVE  
NO HEART  
TO BREAK,  
OBSIDIA.



I EXPECTED  
BETTER OF YOU  
TVARUS

NOT THIS  
ABOMINATION



PROTOMOSCUS!  
WHY HAVE  
YOU JOINED THIS  
DEBACLE?



YOU  
KNOW AS  
WELL AS



I AM  
HERE TO  
JUDGE



TVARUS, YOU  
ARE ACCUSED OF  
TREASON

HAVE YOU ANYTHING  
TO SAY IN YOUR  
DEFENSE?



YES, I HAVE  
CREATED A  
HYBRID

CURSE  
HER IF YOU WILL  
BUT SHE HAS  
A SOUL



STOP  
HIM!

THAT'S  
MORE THAN  
WE CAN  
CLAIM!



YOU ARE  
CRAZED

I REGRET  
YOUR MOMENT  
OF RECKONING  
IS AT HAND  
SIRE

I MUST  
FORCE YOU  
TO REMAIN  
HERE

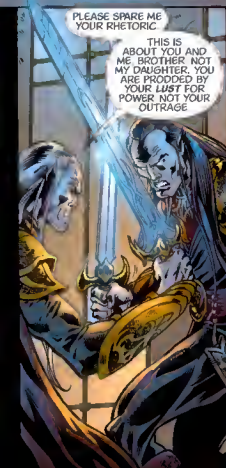


THEN I'LL  
FIGHT.

THIS IS WHAT  
YOU'VE ALWAYS  
WANTED, ISN'T  
IT THORM?

I WANT  
WHAT IS RIGHT  
FOR THE  
REALM

THAT IS  
ALL



PLEASE SPARE ME  
YOUR RHETORIC.

THIS IS  
ABOUT YOU AND  
ME, BROTHER, NOT  
MY DAUGHTER. YOU  
ARE PRODDED BY  
YOUR *LUST* FOR  
POWER, NOT YOUR  
OUTRAGE.



NO, BROTHER, YOU  
CROSSED THE LINE  
WHEN YOU MATED  
WITH VERMIN IN  
NOVGOROD.



THEY  
ARE THE  
ENEMY!



HE TOOK HIS SWORD TO ME! I HAVE THE RIGHT TO BATTLE. LET HIM FREE SO WE MAY FIGHT!

BETTER I STILL HIM THAN HE KILL YOU.  
THE EVIDENCE IS CLEAR.

I SENTENCE LORD TVARUS TO THE WELF HOLES--

--FOR ALL ETERNITY!

WELF HOLES? BUT TIME IS STRANGE THERE. ONE NIGHT IN A WELF HOLE AND A CENTURY COULD PASS HERE.

YOU'VE SENTENCED HIM TO A LIVING DEATH!



YOUR FATHER SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE HE DISGRACED OUR RACE WITH A HYBRID DAUGHTER!



HORSES!

HOW DOES YOUR HAND FEEL?

FINE, THANKS TO YOU.

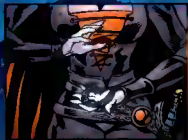


COME ON, WE MUST STEAL THESE HORSES OR CAI WILL TAKE OUR LIVES

I WON'T DO THAT.

THEN WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?







NO!



UNCLE,  
PLEASE-YOU  
MUST NOT DO  
THIS!



NO! PLEASE,  
MOTHER,  
FREE HIM!



THE REALM DEMANDS  
JUSTICE, CAPRICE.

FATHER,  
I LOVE  
YOU.

I WON'T  
LET THIS CRUEL  
SENTENCE STAND!



STAND  
BACK-

IF YOU STICK EVEN A  
FINGER IN THERE IT WILL WITHER  
QUICKER THAN THE REST OF YOU





THIS WAY!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



TO NOVGOROD.

TO KILL THE MEN WHO MURDERED MY MOTHER.



DON'T DO THIS. HOPE

YOU'VE SEEN HOW THE VILLAGERS REACT TO YOU

LET'S JUST RIDE OUT. GET TO SAFETY

YOU COULD GET HURT OR WORSE



YOU FORGET.

I'M ALREADY DEAD!



THIS IS  
MADNESS.  
THERE IS  
STILL MUCH  
FOR YOU TO  
LEARN.

I'VE  
LEARNED  
ENOUGH TO  
KILL THOSE  
MEN.

I'LL SIMPLY  
MAKE THEM CRY  
IN PAIN, THEN I'LL  
TURN THEIR  
TEARS TO GLASS  
SHAROS.



THAT WILL MAKE  
YOU NO BETTER  
THAN THEM.

WHAT  
VICTORY  
WOULD  
THAT BE?

WHAT DO  
YOU EXPECT  
OF ME, WOLF?  
HUMANS SHUN  
ME AT EVERY  
TURN.

THEY  
MURDERED MY  
MOTHER, THEY  
MURDERED  
ME.




I EXPECT YOU  
TO **THINK**  
BEFORE YOU  
ACT!

I HAVE THOUGHT IT OUT. I  
DON'T BELONG HERE AND I  
DON'T BELONG AMONG THE  
ELDRITCH.

I STAND  
ALONE.

AND I  
FIGHT FOR MY  
OWN REASONS.



WHAT MANNER OF LIFE IS THAT?  
PLAGUED BY GHOSTS OF THE  
PAST? DRIVEN BY EVENTS YOU  
CAN'T CHANGE? DO YOU  
REALLY SEE ANY CHOICE  
IN THAT?

YOU DON'T  
UNDERSTAND A  
THING ABOUT THE  
ELDRITCH. ALL OF  
HUMANITY ARE  
ANGELS COMPARED  
TO THEM.

SIDE WITH ME.  
HOPE. STAND AGAINST  
THE ELDRITCH AND  
THIS INFERNAL CONFLICT.



WE'LL  
DISCUSS THIS  
FURTHER AFTER  
NOVGOROD.





WOMAN,  
CAN'T YOU  
DO ANYTHING  
RIGHT?

NO MORE  
QUESTIONS  
WITHOUT  
WINE!

YOU  
HEAR  
ME?

BURRP



FORGIVE  
ME, LORD.

I SAID  
MORE  
WINE!

YES HERE  
IT IS. YOU WERE  
GOING TO TELL  
ME WHO THESE  
SCARLET RIDERS  
ARE?



YOU AND  
YOUR ENDLESS  
QUESTIONS!  
BURRP

THEY'RE  
WARRIORS.

MONKS.

FROM  
JAPAN.



"THEY'RE  
DEADLY BUT  
ALTRUISTIC

AND I'M  
BLOODY  
PLEASED  
THEY'RE  
LEAVING

"BUT WHAT  
DO YOU CARE?

"NOW, SHUT YOUR  
MOUTH AND COME  
HERE, WOMAN."

"YOU ORCHESTRATED THIS,  
DIDN'T YOU, MOTHER?"

I DIDN'T  
MATE WITH  
A HUMAN.

FATHER'S  
RULE WAS JUST  
AND WITH REASON.

WE  
MADE US  
HEM

WE ARE  
MEANT FOR CONQUEST  
WE SHOULD RULE THE  
HUMAN KINGDOMS. THEY  
CAN'T BE LEFT TO THEIR  
OWN DEVICES

COME  
ALONG NOW

"—WE HAVE AN  
APPEARANCE  
TO MAKE."

UNDER TVARUS  
OUR BELLIES  
WERE FULL

AYE, AND OUR EVERY  
EXTRAVAGANCE  
SATISFIED

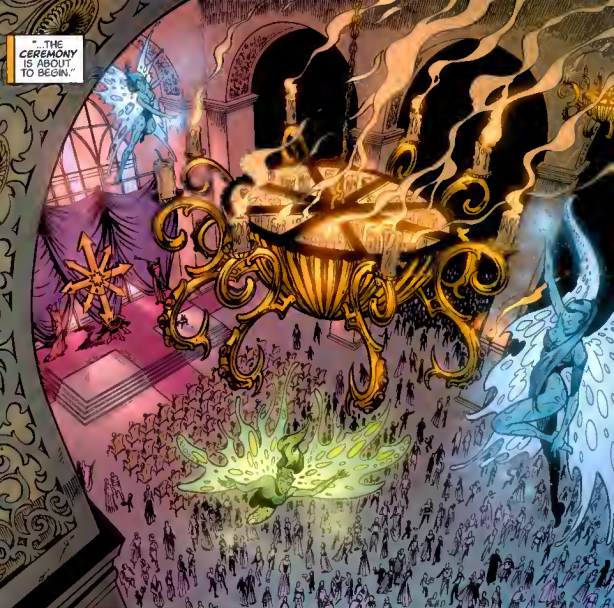
NOW  
WE'LL HAVE  
TO WATCH THE  
WAY THE WIND  
BLOWS

KA-TARALAN,  
LORDS?

IT'S  
QUITE SWEET  
TONIGHT

PROCEED TO  
THE SENATE CHAMBERS,  
KIND LORDS AND LADIES.

"...THE  
CEREMONY  
IS ABOUT  
TO BEGIN."



IN THE ABSENCE OF LEADERSHIP,  
THE VOID MUST BE FILLED, SO  
THE ELDritch REALM  
MAY PROSPER.

THE DUTY  
FALLS TO THE  
NEXT-BORN  
OF THE RULING  
HOUSE, AS IT HAS  
FOR NINETY-NINE  
GENERATIONS.

MAY I  
PRESENT TO  
YOU OUR NEW  
KING...





THORM  
GARA!

I ACCEPT  
THE DUTY OF  
LEADERSHIP

FOR TOO  
LONG WE HAVE  
HIDDEN IN THE  
SHADOWS AND  
INDULGED OUR  
SENSES WITH  
FESTIVALS AND  
THE LIKE

THAT  
TIME IS  
OVER.

NOW IS  
THE TIME FOR  
DOMINANCE.

MY FIRST  
ACT AS YOUR  
KING?

I DECLARE  
WAR ON NOVGOROD,  
BIRTHPLACE OF  
THE HYBRID!

READY  
THE WILD  
HUNT!





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